Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8937

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, CU, CA, US

SUBJ: CUBANA ROUTES TO MONTREAL

REF: STATE 042942

1. SLIVITZKY TOLD TCO FEB 25 HE WILL BE MEETING IN MONTREAL FEBRUARY 26 WITH CUBANA OPERATIONS MANAGER TO DISCUSS INAUGURATION OF SERVICE. CUBANA PLANS FLY TWICE A WEEK (WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY/MONDAY) FROM MONTREAL TO HAVANA; NO OTTAWA SERVICE ENVISAGED AT THIS TIME. AIR CANADA PLANS TO FLY ONCE A WEEK, STARTING ABOUT MAY 1, BUT ONLY FROM TORONTO TO HAVANA.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE CHARTER ROUTE FROM MONTREAL WHICH HAS BEEN AND IS USED BY AIR CANADA AND WHICH IT INTENDS TO RECOMMEND TO CUBANA:

MONTREAL

ALBANY

JFK

NORFOLK

CAROLINA BEACH (OVER OCEAN)

BISCAYNE

MARATHON

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HAVANA

3. FOLLOWING IS THE CHARTER ROUTE FROM TORONTO WHICH AIR CANADA INTENDS USE FOR SCHEDULED SERVICES:

TORONTO

DUNKIRK

ELLWOOD CITY

ELKINS

PULASKA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

SAVANNAH

JACKSONVILLE

ORLANDO

MIAMI

BISCAYNE BAY

MARATHON

HAVANA

4. PRIOR TO OUR CONVERSATION, SLIVITZKY HAD OBTAINED THE CZECH ROUTE--BASED ON A SINGLE FLIGHT PLAN FILED BY AIR CANADA ON BEHALF OF CSA--WHICH READ AS FOLLOWS:

MONTREAL

ALBANY

KENNEDY

NORFOLK

HAW RPT HAW

PANAL RPT PANAL

PAVER RPT PAVER

SQUID RPT SQUID

PALME RPT PALME

BIMINI

ZOLA

HAVANA

5. SLIVITZKY COULD NOT CORRELATE THIS WITH THE APPROVED ROUTES GIVEN IN REFTEL, BUT WILL MAKE INQUIRIES IN AIR CANADA ORGANIZATION. HE ALSO ADVISED THAT AIR CANADA DOES NOT YET HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH CUBNA COVERING FILING OF FLIGHT PLANS.
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6. COMMENT: SLIVITZKY APOLOGIZED FOR DELAY IN RESPONDING TO OUR INQUIRIRES AND SAID HE HAD BEEN ADVISED OF OUR INTEREST BY BOTH EXTAFF AND MOT. CUBANA OFFICIAL MENTIONED PARA ONE WILL BE WITH SLIVITZKY ABOUT NOON ON FEBRUARY 26 AND WILL REMAIN IN MONTREAL PERHAPS THROUGH FEBRUARY 28. SLIVITZKY BELIEVES ANY DISCUSSION WITH CUBANA ON ROUTING SHOULD

TAKE PLACE IN NEXT FEW DAYS AS AIR CANADA'S COMMUNICATIONS WITH HAVANA ARE NOT GOOD.

7. TCO REMINDED SLIVITZKY, AS WE HAD EXTAFF AND MOT, THAT WE EXPECT CUBA TO APPLY FORMALLY FOR PERMISSION TO OVERFLY AND THAT THIS, SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, HAD NOT BEEN DONE. SLIVITZKY PROMISED TO MENTION THIS AND INDICATED THAT IN HIS VIEW CUBA'S FAILURE TO DO SO BY NOW RESULTED FROM AN OVERSIGHT AND NOT FROM ANY DELIBERATE POLITICAL DECISION TO FLOUT THE U.S. ENDERS

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